vidual speaker is concerned to assert his own consistency and virtue, with the result that their utterances tend to cancel out, leaving no remainder. Everyone concerned in the events which led to the formation of the National Government had his say, in some cases several times over. Vehement accusations and counter accusations were made, Henderson going so far as to ask to be put on oath. Yet all these speeches, angry interpolations, assertions and denials, do not reveal whether a condition of further borrowing from Francq and the United States was some reduction in unemployment benefit with a view to making the Unemployment Insurance Fund solvent. This was the point round which controversy raged most furiously. The nearest it came to being elucidated was when MacDotiald, in answer to a supplementary question, stated that 'the handling of the unemployment cuts was necessitated by special conditions of borrowing, and they must remain/ This statement, however, was subsequently repudiated.

There is nothing which gives the well-to-do greater satisfaction than to be asked to economise for the good of their country. The money saved gratifies their avarice; the fact that in saving they are performing a public service adds a glow of self-righteousness. Even when the expenditure concerned is not their own but the State's, they are still doubly pleased, feeling at once more virtuous and more secure. The new Government's appeals for national self-sacrifice did not, therefore, pass unheeded. A lead was given by the King, who asked that his Civil List of £470,000 should be reduced by £50,000. Other members of

the Royal Family followed suit, the Prince of Wales presenting the Exchequer with £10,000 from the income of £65,000 he received from the Duchy of Cornwall. Employers contracted their expenditure, and provided their employees with an opportunity to accept a voluntary reduction in their salaries, usually enforcing the reduction when this opportunity was neglected.

Even, the Prime Minister proudly announced, certain of the unemployed had dispatched small postal-orders to him as a contribution towards reducing the Budget deficit, and as an expres-